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ABSTRACT

A review is presented of the assistance program from 1946 to 1965 for local school districts in Mississippi. School district program needs were determined by a citizen's council, a legislature study committee, an educational finance committee and a legislative report in public education. These groups examined existing school plant facilities and made recommendations in terms of projections of future needs. A table of allocations to school districts and a table of annual allocations are included in the report. A summary presents site specifications, facilities included, the reduction of the number of school districts, school population growth, and school construction costs. (FS)

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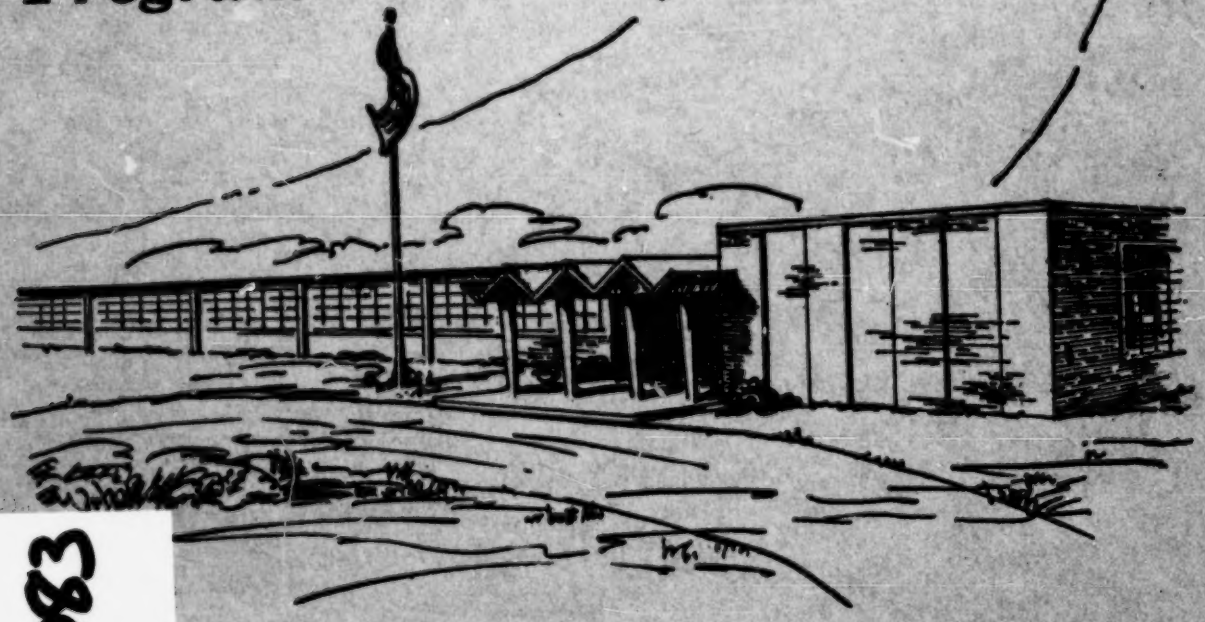
Mississippi's 300 Million Dollar School Construction Program



EF 000 983

STATE EDUCATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSION

T. H. NAYLOR, JR., Executive Secretary

JACKSON

ED037010

Mississippi's 300 Million Dollar School Construction Program

by

T. H. NAYLOR, JR., and G. J. CAIN

July, 1965

Cover Designed by ROBERT C. JONES

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JACKSON

PAUL B. JOHNSON
GOVERNOR

November 2, 1965

Dr. Otho Messer, Chairman
State Educational Finance Commission
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Dr. Messer:

The story of Mississippi's three hundred million dollar school construction program is one that has needed to be told.

The State of Mississippi began to assist financially in the construction of classrooms in 1946 when the Legislature first authorized funds for public school construction - a modest appropriation of $3,000,000 to be matched by local funds. In 1951 the state was staggered with the cumbersome burden of 2,094 school districts and an unbelievable 1,409 one-room schools. In 1953 legislation was enacted which has enabled the Educational Finance Commission to reduce the number of school districts from over 2,000 to 150. Since its creation, the Commission has assisted in the construction of almost 10,000 new classrooms. New classroom facilities have been made available in each of the 150 existing districts.

Significantly, the number of one-room schools has been reduced from over 1,300 to 13. Overall, since the conclusion of World War II, the state, in cooperation with local districts, has constructed a total of approximately 13,500 new classrooms; and almost sixty-five per cent of the school children of Mississippi receive their education in new classroom facilities. This is a record almost unparalleled in the nation. Of equal significance is the fact that these classroom buildings have been constructed at a cost far below the national average.

The Educational Finance Commission is to be commended for its far-sighted dedication to the long-term needs of the school children of Mississippi and certainly for its prudence in expending public funds for these worthwhile purposes.

The Commission's work is far from complete. With the growing industrialization of much of the state come new requirements for classroom space. The state is fortunate that we have an agency with the talent, the know-how, and the experience to meet these pressing needs.

As governor, I pledge my full support to the completion of the Herculean task the Commission has so effectively begun.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Johnson

Governor

FOREWORD

At the close of each biennium, the Educational Finance Commission issues an official report to the Governor and members of the Legislature. Such a report deals primarily with a record of the activities of the Commission during the biennium and the projected goals and requirements for the ensuing biennium. This pamphlet differs from the regular biennial report in both material and objectives, although it does contain parts of the information found in the regular report.

It is intended herein to supply the reader with a brief account of how a three hundred million dollar school construction program was initiated and financed over a period of years and to acknowledge with appreciation the splendid services of the groups and agencies which, along with the Educational Finance Commission, have played such an important roll in making the program a success.

The material here will probably be of interest not only to legislators but also to educators and other citizens interested in our school system, both in and outside Mississippi. Everyone living in the state will find some information pertaining directly to his school district.

An attempt is made here to assemble such bits of historical facts since 1946 that have some bearing upon the school construction program. Naturally, the construction of school plants has not been a disconnected effort, separate and apart from the rest of the school program, but has been an integral part of a large, overall plan for improving educational opportunities in Mississippi. Obviously, other factors and activities relating to the school program, as a whole, will enter into parts of the discussions which follow.

EDUCATIONAL FINANCE COMMISSION

The Educational Finance Commission was created in 1953 and was charged with the responsibility of adopting rules and regulations for the reorganization and consolidation of school districts as provided by Chapter 12, Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1953, and the approval or disapproval of reorganization, consolidation and long range plans submitted by local school boards. It was also charged with the responsibility of administering and executing the provisions of Chapter 13, Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1953, which created the "State Public School Building Fund."

The law provided that two Commissioners should be appointed for a term of two years, two for four years and two for six years. At the expiration of the terms of these six appointments, their successors were to be appointed for a term of six years. One Commissioner must reside in each of the six Congressional Districts as constituted in 1953.

The following lists show the names of previous Commissioners, Commissioners Serving Currently and the Present Staff:

Previous Commissioners

	District	Number of Years	Expiration Date of Service	
Louis Alford, McComb	4th	6	4-1-60	
Luther Pullen, Kosciusko	1st	10	4-1-64	
Marvin Williams, Meridian	5th	4	4-1-60	
J. K. Worrell, Carrollton	2nd	8	4-1-64	
David Miles, Lexington	3rd	6	4-1-62	
J. W. Pope, Richton	6th	8	4-1-62	
Tally D. Riddell, Quitman	5th	2	4-1-56	(Resigned)
Ira L. Morgan, Oxford	2nd	2	4-1-56	(Resigned)
P. F. Williams, Clarksdale	3rd	2	4-1-56	

(E. S. Bowlus, Executive Secretary, 1954-1956)

Commissioners Serving Currently

Dr. Otho Messer, Crystal Springs	4th	4-1-66
J. C. Barnett, Gulfport	6th	4-1-68
Dr. W. B. Dribben, Greenwood	3rd	4-1-68
Gerald Adams, Meridian	5th	4-1-66
W. B. Vance, Carrollton	2nd	4-1-70
R. F. Haney, Baldwyn	1st	4-1-70

Present Staff

T. H. Naylor, Jr.

W. J. Hubbard — Hester Blaine

Pat Smith

Catherine Legg — Willie Cofer

Ruth Walton

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MISSISSIPPI'S THREE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLAR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Soon after the close of World War II, Mississippians became keenly aware of the state's lack of suitable school buildings and facilities and decided to do something about it. The matter of providing more than three hundred million dollars for school plant construction in a period of a few years was a task of no mean dimensions. In fact, it was an accomplishment, the attainment of which seemed almost out of the question, yet one which thoughtful Mississippians considered a "must." The challenge loomed large, but the rewards would be indispensable.

I. New Trend — The Establishment of the Policy of Making State Appropriations for Public School Construction:

The lawmakers first engaged in making state appropriations for public school construction in 1946. At that time, three million dollars was appropriated for the biennium, and these funds had to be matched with local funds. In each of the following three bienniums, two million dollars was made available. Thus from 1946 to 1954, a total of nine million dollars was provided from state appropriations for school building construction and repairs. The 1946 and 1948 appropriations limited the amount from state funds that could be allocated to school districts to $2,000 per classroom. Appropriations in 1950 and 1952 limited white schools to $2,000 per classroom but permitted the allocation of $2.00 for each $1.00 provided by local districts for the construction of Negro schools. During this period, 1946 to 1954, a total of approximately $75,000,000 was provided for school construction from all sources including local district funds.

The appropriation of nine million dollars for school construction during a period of eight years was a rather meager beginning, but the significance lies in the fact that a beginning had been made toward the improvement of school facilities from state funds. This trend has accelerated and has resulted in the allotment from this source of $124,465,429 to date, June 30, 1965, for school construction since it was begun in 1946. A total of more than $300,-

000,000 from all sources, including local district funds, has been expended for this purpose during this period of time.

II. Needs in Terms of Classrooms.

For some years it had been evident that the schools of the state were inadequate in school plant facilities, but prior to 1950 no plan was in operation for determining precisely what the current needs were and for forecasting future requirements with a reasonable degree of accuracy.

Five media, in addition to the perennial studies of the State Department of Education, have made important contributions toward the accumulation of information needed in determining current and future needs for schoolhouse construction and plant renovations.

Let us examine briefly the activities of these five agencies:

A. Mississippi Public School Facilities Survey.

This survey was begun in 1951 and was completed in 1954. We quote here the first three paragraphs of the report of this survey:

> "This report comprising the Mississippi Public School Facilities Survey was financed jointly by the state and Federal funds provided by Public Law 815, 81st Congress of the United States. The state did not make an appropriation for this survey, but the existing Division of School Building and Transportation staff and other members of the Department of Education contributed a tremendous amount of time and effort in assembling and completing the report.
>
> "Sources of information: Federal Census, State Banking Department, State Auditor's Department, Mississippi State Board of Health, State Department of Education, and local school administrative units.
>
> "The first phase of the state-wide school facilities survey consisted of an inventory which provided the following information: (a) the existing public school facilities, (b) needs, and (3) resources."

The second phase of this survey included the collection of such information as maps for every county showing the location of each child and each school center, the population of each county from 1900 to 1950, the number of live births in each county from 1945 through 1952, the average daily attendance of each school in the county from 1945 through 1952, and the school building facilities available at each school center. It was found that, in 1951, the state had 2,094 school districts. There were 1,409 one-room school centers. There were 439 schools housed in non-publicly owned buildings in 1950. It was found that the state would need 19,408 classrooms in the near future. There were only 17,214 rooms available and 4,387 of these were unsatisfactory and should be abandoned as soon as possible. The survey pointed out that the trend from rural to urban centers as well as a gradual increase in school population had created unusual problems in obtaining adequate classrooms in proper locations for all the children. The survey recommended district reorganization as one important aid in planning for future school construction needs.

The survey pointed out that at that time only 224 of the 2,094 districts, including separate school districts, had an assessed valuation of more than $500,000, and that 527 districts had an assessed valuation of less than $300,000. The law permits a school district to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed 15 per cent of the assessed valuation. The report cited actual figures showing that a large number of districts would not be able to finance needed new construction even by using their full bonding capacity. The conclusion was reached that state support for school construction was the only way possible for school districts to build necessary classrooms. Participation by the state, administered by the Educational Finance Commission, became a reality soon after the survey made its report and is presently playing a vital roll in supplying necessary school buildings.

B. Citizens Council on Education.

This organization was formed in 1951 by a group of interested educators and lay leaders for the purpose of improving educational opportunities in Mississippi. Its membership came largely from the Mississippi Education Association, Congress of Parents and Teachers, and the State Department of Education.

The study made by this group and its recommendations to the Legislature in 1952, regular session, in reality, sparked the creation of the Legislative Study Committee. The outgrowth of the work of the Citizens Council for education has been tremendous, not only in the area of capital improvement but also in such improvements as the Minimum Foundation Program and school district reorganization. This Committee was very strong in its recommendations for more adequate school plant facilities.

C. The Legislative Study Committee.

This Committee has been referred to above under "Section B."

In 1952, the Legislature appointed a committee to make a comprehensive study of the entire school system and to recommend legislation for reorganizing the schools on a more effective and efficient basis. A rather exhaustive study was made by the eighteen-member committee and its report was submitted to a special session of the Legislature in 1953. The resulting reorganization of the school system was the most drastic and comprehensive that has taken place in the history of the state. The results of the study included the reduction of the number of school districts from 2,094 to 150, the establishing of the State Public School Building Fund, and the creation of the Educational Finance Commission whose duties include the administering of the State Public School Building Fund. The Commission was also charged with other responsibilities, including the adoption of rules and regulations for reorganization and consolidation of school districts

as provided for in Chapter 12, Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1953.

D. Educational Finance Commission

This Commission, created by the Legislature in 1953, consists of six members appointed for six-year terms by the Governor and approved by the Senate. One member must be appointed from each Congressional District as the districts existed in 1953. The terms of the members are staggered so that two expire every two years. How this Commission came into existence, some of its functions and responsibilities have already been mentioned. The Commission has practically completed one phase of its responsibilities; namely, the reorganization and consolidation of school districts as provided by Chapter 12, Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1953. It is now concerned largely with administering the Public School Building Fund and related activities as provided by Chapter 13, Laws of the Extraordinary Session of 1953.

It is obvious that this Commission is in a strategic position for discovering the existing conditions of school plants over the entire state and for determining current and future needs more accurately than any other agency in the state.

E. Legislative Report on Public Education in Mississippi.

This is a report of a Legislative Study Committee authorized by the Legislature in 1960. More than 100 persons, selected from professional educators and lay people, engaged in this study during a two-year period. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the then current conditions of the state's school system and to make recommendations where improvements were found to be desirable. Some statements culled from the report of this study concerning school plant construction are presented here. Printed copies of the full report are available for those interested. Below are some excerpts taken from this report with ref-

erence to the school construction program then in progress in the state, largely under the direction and supervision of the Educational Finance Commission:

> "The new plant facilities have been planned to achieve the greatest flexibility of use and future expansion to accommodate special educational needs and increasing size of school population. A summary of statistics showing types of space indicates the completeness of the new plants for the basic requirements of classroom instruction, food, service, assembly, and physical education. A similar breadth of these facilities has been achieved in the provision of alterations and additions to existing plants."

* * * * * * * *

> "The school plant is more than the building, the playground, the parking lot, the shrubbery, and the woodland park. It is more yet than all of these together. It is the symbol of an institution, a community where young America grows up, learning about living and how to live. It is here where ideas flourish, where the purpose is to develop healthy minds and healthy bodies.
>
> "It is no accident, therefore, that the term 'school plant' is used to signify the total physical setting of this educational institution. The term is suggestive of a garden, a place with order and beauty and growth, which is attended by a gardener who cares. Try to find a community that is not proud of its schools, and finding it one will discover unhappy citizens who for one reason or another have not worked out satisfactory solutions to their educational aspirations for their children."

The report of the Legislative Study Committee in 1961 showed that all of the schools studied had a high utilization of classrooms during the school day. The average ranged from 85 per cent to 96 per cent which is considered representative of a high degree of utilization. Sixty per cent is considered good in small schools, and 70 per cent is good in large schools.

> "There were 16,990 classrooms available for use in 1961. It was estimated that 19,191 rooms were needed, thus leaving 2,201 new classrooms needed but not available. Needed supplementary space

associated with classrooms was not estimated," stated the Legislative Study Committee Report.

III. The Creation of the State Public School Building Fund.

A. Purpose.

This fund was created in 1953 for the purpose of providing the necessary means for making annual grants to the various school districts for capital improvements. At the end of each school year, the state credits the account of each school district with an amount based upon the average daily attendance of the district for that year. Twelve dollars per year average daily attendance for white children is allowed and $15.00 for Negro children. In case a district needs more building funds than the state grants for that year, it may borrow from the state an amount not to exceed 75 per cent of its estimated grants for the next 20 years. If a loan is obtained from the state, the loan is liquidated by the state's withholding funds from annual grants until the principal and interest have been paid. The necessary funds for making annual grants to the various school districts are provided by a state appropriation of $555,000 per month or $6,660,000 per year placed in the State Public School Building Fund. The first allotment from this fund was made by the Educational Finance Commission during session 1955-1956.

B. Requirements

There are certain specific requirements which school districts must observe in order to obtain aid from the State Public School Building Fund. These requirements are summarized below, under two sections:

1. Long Range Plans.

The law requires each district to submit, for the Commission's approval, a long range plan providing satisfactory school facilities. These plans must show

the proposed attendance centers, satisfactory existing facilities, proposed new facilities with the order of priority for expenditure of state funds, and the total facilities for the school population of each race after the plan is completed. Only the attendance centers approved by the Commission are eligible for expenditures of state funds. Centers that do not meet the required standards may be operated by local boards if local funds are made available to pay the cost of operation over and above the minimum program and any outlays for building cost. The Commission has no authority to close schools nor to determine where schools shall be constructed, however, the law states all school sites selected by school boards must be approved by the Commission prior to construction. The Commission endeavors to approve only those centers which, in its judgement, will provide the best educational program for the children without useless expenditures of state or local funds. It has exerted every effort to approve for construction of new facilities only those sites which are properly located to serve the school population.

2. **Procedures.**

   a. Upon reorganization of the school districts, school boards are required to prepare and submit to the Commission the "Long Range Plan of Providing Equal Facilities for the children in the district."

   b. After the plan is approved by the Commission, the school board should select a new site, if needed, and secure options; therefore causing no delay in purchasing if and when such a site is approved by the Commission.

   c. All sites must be approved by the Commission before the building applications will be considered.

   d. After the Commission has approved the school site, a certificate of title must be provided by the board of trustees.

   e. When the above requirements have been met, the board of trustees may submit an application re-

questing State School Building Funds for each project.

The number of square feet for an elementary school building should not exceed 65 per student, and the number of square feet for a secondary school building should not exceed 85 per student. The maximum amount allocated per square foot by the Educational Finance Commission is $7.50, including equipment and fees. If local funds are available, the school board may add to state funds and provide additional facilities or may exceed $7.50 per square foot for a better type building, providing the district equalizes facilities for all the children in the district.

f. An agreement must be executed, by and between the board of trustees and the Commission, immediately following the approval of an application for school construction.

g. The president and secretary of the board of trustees must certify to the Commission that the funds involved will be expended only for the purpose for which they are allocated.

h. All school building funds received from the state must be deposited in a separate account for each project and must not be commingled with other funds.

i. Plans and specifications must be approved by the State Department of Education, State Board of Health, and the State Educational Finance Commission before advertisement for bids; and the date for receiving bids must be approved by the Commission.

j. Proper notice to bidders should be published as provided by law.

k. All bids received should be publicly opened, read and tabulated; and the contracts awarded to the lowest and best bidders by the board of trustees,

subject to the approval of the State Educational Finance Commission.

l. Upon acceptance of bids, the board of trustees should submit the following to the Commission:

(1) Two copies of bid tabulations received from at least the three lowest and best bidders.

(2) Two copies of all bids approved by the board.

(3) Four copies of each signed contract.

(4) Two copies of each contractor's performance bond on forms furnished by the Commission.

(5) A certificate attesting to the percentage and/or amount of architect's fees involved.

(6) If the project is to be financed partially by local funds, a statement should be furnished, signed by either the president or secretary of the board of trustees, attesting to the availability of sufficient local funds to complete the project.

(7) A written request for payment to the district of such state building funds as the district is then entitled to receive.

m. The same procedure must be followed in regard to equipment contracts as is outlined above for construction contracts.

n. All change orders, including credits granted by the contractor, must be submitted for approval by the commission before being carried out. The Commission must be furnished with documentary evidence of every change that is made affecting the amount of the contract or the architectural and engineering fees involved, and such changes must be approved by the Commission and placed on record in its minutes.

o. When the building is at least 50 percent completed, a certificate to the effect from the architect, plus

written request by the proper official of the district, both submitted to the Commission, will entitle the district to a further payment of 30 percent of the state's share of the cost of the project.

p. During the course of construction of the building, the Commission's Building Inspector will make as many inspections as necessary.

q. When the building is ready for final inspection, the Commission should be furnished a certificate, in duplicate, from the architect that the building is substantially completed and ready for final inspection. When the date for such final inspection is set, the Building Inspector will arrange a time mutually agreeable to all parties concerned and, together with the architect and at least a majority of the board of trustees, will make such final inspection. When the report of the Building Inspector is made to the Commission and approved, the Commission will enter an order on its minutes finally approving and accepting the building.

r. Immediately following such final inspection and the acceptance of the building by the Commission, a written request from the proper official of the district for final payment of state funds, together with a copy of the architect's "Final Certificate for Payment," should be furnished the Director of Finance who, in turn, will issue proper requisition.

IV. Classroom Construction.

A study of the reports of the five media discussed in Section II, **Needs in Terms of Classrooms**, reveals astounding accomplishments for the State of Mississippi in the matter of school plant construction in recent years.

A. New Classrooms:

Since reorganization, 8,311 new classrooms have been completed, 640 are under contract, and applications have been approved for 254 additional classrooms,

making a total of 9,205 classrooms—libraries, laboratories, homemaking departments, shops, and commercial department are included. All the above classrooms were financed with state and local funds or with state funds alone. Facilities other than classrooms have been provided such as cafeterias, cafetoriums, auditoriums, and gymnasiums, or combination auditorium-gymnasiums, and sewer systems. Approximately 1,025 additional classrooms have been financed entirely from local bond funds. Prior to reorganization of districts, approximately 3,500 classrooms were constructed. From these figures, it is evident that Mississippi has more than 13,500 new classrooms that have been constructed since World War II.

B. **Classrooms and Other Facilities Completed:**

Records in the office of the Educational Finance Commission show that funds allocated by the Commission from the Public School Building Fund during the period 1956 to June 30, 1965, have been used in constructing the following units:

1.	New Classrooms Completed	8,311
2.	New Auditorium-Gymnasiums Completed	156
3.	New Gymnasiums Completed	38
4.	New Auditoriums Completed	43
5.	New Cafeterias Completed	251
6.	New Cafeterias-Auditoriums Completed	143
7.	New Multi-Purpose Rooms Completed	27
8.	Total Completed Buildings	702
9.	Total Projects Completed	827

More than 65 percent of the children in the state are attending school in classrooms constructed since World War II.

V. **Expenditures for Capital Improvement.**

Accompanying tables and graphs give a comprehensive view of (1) the amounts allotted from state funds by the Educational Finance Commission since its inception, and (2)

the total amounts spent for capital outlay in the state during the years indicated. These figures have been gleaned from reports of the State Department of Education and the Educational Finance Commission.

It is obvious that, although the local districts have made valiant efforts to provide needed capital improvements, the task could not possibly have been achieved to anything like a passable degree without the state aid allotted through the Educational Finance Commission.

The table on Page 19 shows that since the State Public School Building Fund was created, the Educational Finance Commission, beginning in 1955-1956, has allotted a total of $115,465,429 through June 30, 1965.

As stated above, approximately $75,000,000 was spent for school construction prior to reorganization. Since reorganization, more than $115,465,000 has been provided in state funds and approximately $125,000,000 in local funds, making a total of approximately $240,465,000 since reorganization and $315,465,000 since World War II.

It is gratifying to note that the Legislative Educational Study Committee of 1960-1961 had this comment in its report:

> "Recent school construction costs in Mississippi appear to be among the lowest in the nation and to represent an outstanding example of efficient planning and management."

It will be observed from the graph on Page 21 that school construction was at a low ebb from 1953 to 1957. This was due largely to two factors; namely, (1) the awaiting the completion of district reorganization in order to determine more accurately the building needs, and (2) the pending implementation of the operation of the State Public School Building Fund.

Attention is called to the fact that funds allotted are not necessarily all spent during the year allotted. Contracts for construction sometimes extend into the second year or longer. It will be observed too that the pent-up needs accumulated during the few years preceding 1957 caused quite a "bulge" in the construction pattern during the next several years.

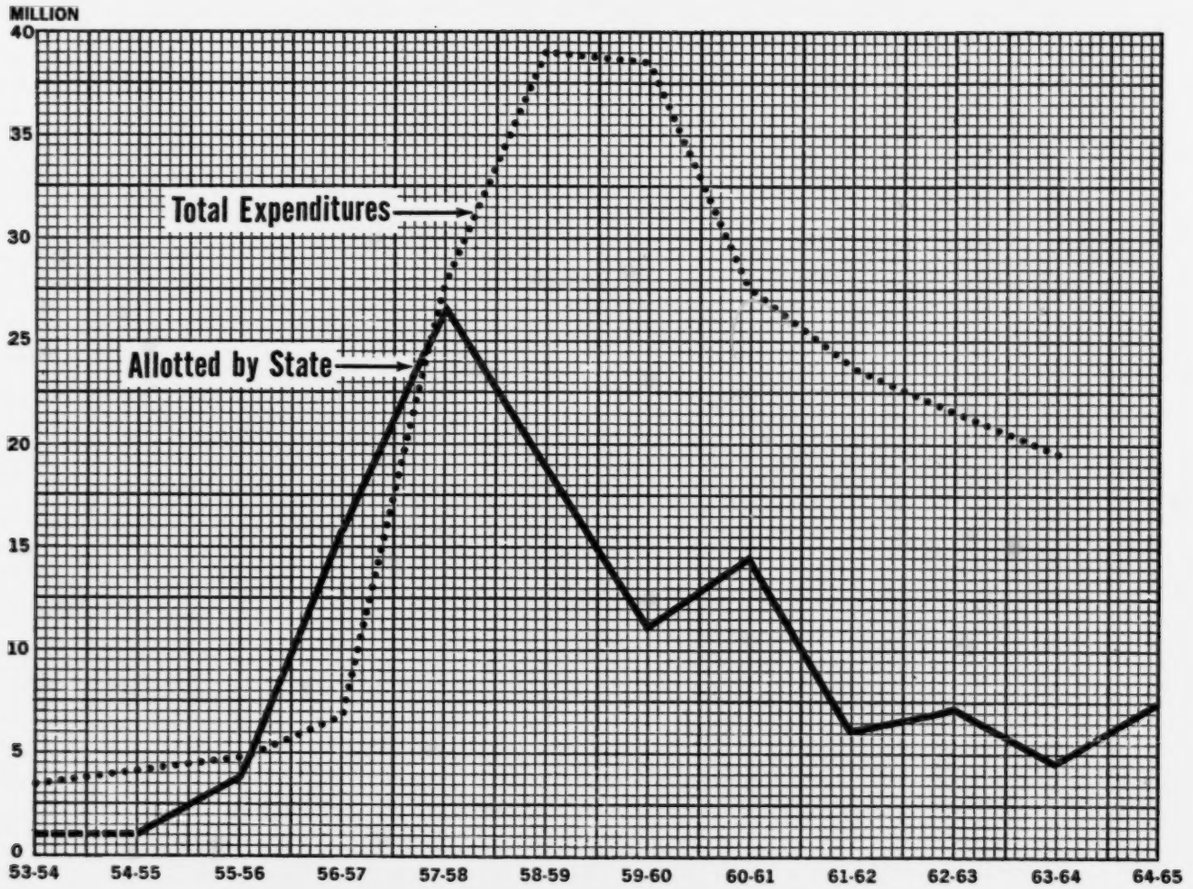
VI. STATE FUNDS ALLOCATED AND NUMBER OF PROJECTS FOR EACH DISTRICT THROUGH JUNE 30, 1965

District	No. Projects	Amount Allocated
Natchez Sp. M. S.	7	$ 1,971,385.00
Alcorn County	5	762,691.35
Corinth M. S.	11	471,234.29
Amite County	3	1,086,654.75
Attala County	5	588,573.51
Kosciusko M. S.	6	535,848.44
Benton County	5	452,714.00
Bolivar No. 1	5	610,946.98
Bolivar No. 2	2	335,210.62
Bolivar No. 3	2	510,645.00
Bolivar No. 4	11	1,086,991.86
Bolivar No. 5	2	406,241.88
Bolivar No. 6	2	321,111.58
Calhoun County	8	962,325.97
Carroll County	10	669,028.76
Chickasaw County	4	291,839.58
Houston M. S.	2	179,283.26
Okolona M. S.	2	300,130.11
Choctaw County	6	467,211.00
Claiborne County	5	571,208.92
Enterprise Cons.	3	261,971.00
Quitman Cons.	7	770,465.34
Clay County	1	137,592.33
West Point M. S.	9	834,621.47
Coahoma County	15	1,566,982.81
Clarksdale M. S.	16	1,085,007.00
Copiah County	6	881,241.84
Hazlehurst M. S.	5	779,352.00
Covington County	10	823,374.45
DeSoto County	12	1,526,065.26
Forrest County	6	1,058,697.07
Hattiesburg M. S.	11	1,597,241.43
Forrest County AHS	1	48,257.00
Franklin County	3	559,163.50
George County	4	541,378.36
Greene County	3	591,065.68
Grenada County	2	277,300.00
Grenada M. S.	2	352,166.50
Hancock County	2	227,975.00
Bay St. Louis M. S.	5	324,045.45
Harrison County	6	931,108.66
Biloxi M. S.	14	1,481,966.35
Gulfport M. S.	11	1,703,733.88
Long Beach M. S.	4	290,248.46
Pass Christian M. S.	3	237,462.00
Hinds County	20	2,594,723.00
Jackson M. S.	34	7,163,580.00
Holmes County	8	1,657,524.92
Humphreys County	10	1,200,194.00
Itawamba County	17	745,874.51
Jackson County	12	549,648.50
Moss Point M. S.	5	537,298.04
Ocean Springs M. S.	9	317,438.71
Pascagoula M. S.	9	1,121,602.92
East Jasper Cons.	3	531,495.39
West Jasper Cons.	3	437,229.35
Jefferson County	4	642,755.13
Jefferson Davis County	8	888,369.46
Jones County	6	1,799,947.52
Laurel M. S.	10	1,430,436.09
Kemper County	4	754,125.10
Lafayette County	4	470,325.63
Oxford M. S.	3	495,258.00
Lamar County	8	648,413.50
Lumberton Line Cons.	3	154,634.38
Lauderdale County	11	987,807.67
Meridian M. S.	10	2,516,795.00
Lawrence County	3	604,323.56
Leake County	8	1,162,834.03
Lee County	6	857,034.39
Nettleton Line Cons.	4	307,932.76
Tupelo M. S.	14	975,157.30
Leflore County	9	1,134,195.99
Greenwood M. S.	8	1,263,772.90
Lincoln County	6	683,134.47
Brookhaven M. S.	7	739,932.21
Lowndes County	14	713,265.00
Columbus M. S.	11	1,553,967.35
Madison County	6	952,246.88
Canton M. S.	10	769,903.67
Marion County	3	608,113.32
Columbia M. S.	3	419,200.00
Marshall County	9	1,021,257.96
Holly Springs M. S.	4	573,531.40
Monroe County	5	504,682.00
Aberdeen M. S.	3	555,000.00
Amory M. S.	8	454,725.00
Montgomery County	4	545,225.85
Winona M. S.	7	328,852.76
Neshoba County	2	749,861.88
Philadelphia M. S.	4	294,954.28
Newton County	4	489,906.21
Newton Sp. M. S.	4	419,365.00
Union Sp. M. S.	3	215,135.75
Noxubee County	7	997,072.14
Oktibbeha County	5	647,997.00
Starkville M. S.	7	855,080.21
North Panola Cons.	5	731,997.92
South Panola Cons.	9	952,302.76
Pearl River County	1	214,533.00
Picayune M. S.	9	808,466.86
Poplarville Sp. M. S.	5	386,584.48
Perry County	2	278,471.37
Richton M. S.	2	163,500.00
North Pike Cons.	1	251,495.00
South Pike Cons.	5	778,110.77
McComb M. S.	6	927,296.60
Pontotoc County	1	121,173.35
Pontotoc M. S.	5	315,312.24
Prentiss County	10	882,221.87
Baldwyn M. S.	4	241,650.00
Quitman County	5	1,175,852.67
Rankin County	9	1,823,885.94
Scott County	8	1,042,468.00
Forest M. S.	4	369,108.58
Anguilla Line Cons.	5	359,770.51
Sharkey-Issaquena Line Cons.	17	567,280.32
Simpson County	12	1,215,799.00
Smith County	7	845,576.00
Stone County	4	376,332.02
Sunflower County	13	1,211,554.50
Drew M. S.	2	469,655.00
Indianola M. S.	7	646,654.62
East Tallahatchie Cons.	18	635,907.36
West Tallahatchie Cons.	6	699,436.50
Tate County	4	770,142.70
Senatobia M. S.	2	252,838.22
North Tippah Cons.	5	288,900.80
South Tippah Cons.	6	583,613.00
Tishomingo County	7	534,632.52
Iuka Sp. M. S.	5	217,328.45
Tunica County	8	914,484.90
Union County	6	624,268.10
New Albany M. S.	4	367,337.66
Walthall County	3	720,881.29
Warren County	8	732,784.00
Vicksburg M. S.	7	1,392,731.00
Hollandale Cons.	8	623,262.50
Leland Cons.	1	135,403.03
Western Line Cons.	1	431,283.00
Greenville M. S.	14	2,217,595.02
Wayne County	9	892,569.82
Webster County	5	500,610.65
Wilkinson County	8	906,222.25
Louisville M. S.	4	1,127,583.59
Coffeeville Cons.	2	229,739.50
Oakland Cons.	1	107,319.90
Water Valley Line Cons.	2	323,058.70
Yazoo County	13	1,035,441.60
Holly Bluff Line Cons.	2	123,661.29
Yazoo City M. S.	5	406,440.83
TOTALS	975	$115,465,429.35

M. S.—Municipal Separate School District; Sp. M. S.—Special Municipal Separate School District; Cons.—Consolidated School District; 28 projects are joint schools and listed in two districts.

VII. SCHOOL BUILDING FUNDS FOR COUNTIES AND SEPARATE DISTRICTS FOR YEARS INDICATED

	(1) Total Amount Expended for Capital Out-lay Including Funds from State, Local Bond Issues and Other Sources.	(2) Amounts Alloted by Educational Finance Commission from State Funds.
1953-54	$ 3,458,298	$
1954-55	4,153,351	
1955-56	4,736,472	3,762,386
1956-57	6,774,981	15,723,776
1957-58	27,500,000	26,639,119
1958-59	39,190,730	19,059,871
1959-60	38,496,546	10,951,973
1960-61	27,620,262	14,768,440
1961-62	26,383,675	5,843,706
1962-63	21,237,839	6,998,922
1963-64	19,452,310	4,548,012
1964-65	24,169,224	7,169,224
Total	$243,173,688	$115,465,429


MILLION
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
Total Expenditures
Allotted by State
53-54
54-55
55-56
56-57
57-58
58-59
59-60
60-61
61-62
62-63
63-64
64-65

IX. Summary.

The policy of providing state funds for school building construction created tremendous interest among school officials. School boards in each district have had surveys made to determine school construction needs, and the surveys included long range plans for providing equal facilities for all children in the district. The studies also took into consideration the fact that the population in our state was shifting from rural areas to cities or subdivisions near the cities.

School boards are required to have at least eight acres of land for an elementary school site and twenty acres for a secondary school site. Schools are required to have at least one teacher for each grade taught in the school—most schools are larger. Buildings are planned so that additional classrooms may be added if attendance should increase.

The Commission has attempted to provide space for **teaching, eating,** and **meeting.** Many districts have had bonds issued and have added local funds to state funds in order to have a more complete school, and we have many school plants that provide facilities for a comprehensive program. Most secondary schools have administrative office, modern classrooms, library, science laboratory, business education, homemaking, shops, music, band, cafeteria, gymnasium, auditorium, rest rooms, athletic fields and adequate playground. Most elementary schools have administrative officers, cafetorium, modern classrooms, rest rooms, storage and adequate playground.

School districts have been reduced from more than 2,000 to 150. The number of attendance centers has been greatly reduced. There were more than 3,800 school attendance centers in 1951 and 1,042 in 1965. There were 1,409 one-room schools in 1951 and 13 in 1965. Schools are now larger and better.

Average daily attendance of all schools in the state for session 1954-1955 was 444,104, and the average daily attendance for the past session, 1964-1965, was 529,508.

School attendance has increased 85,404 since 1955. Each year approximately 350 new classrooms are needed to care for increased attendance, and an additional 150 to 200 class rooms are needed in urban areas to care for children who move from rural to urban areas. Some districts have almost completed their building programs; but others, due to disagreement, have been delayed.

Sixty five per cent of the children in the state are attending school in classrooms constructed since World War II. More than $300,000,000 has been spent for school construction in the state since 1946, and more than 13,000 classrooms have been constructed. The cost per square foot has been less than the cost in most states. Many classrooms have been constructed at a cost of $7.50 per square foot.

Commission members and the staff of the State Educational Finance Commission have done a good job, but this could not have been done without the cooperation of the Bond Commission including the Governor, Attorney General and State Treasurer. Members of the Legislature have been very cooperative. The State Department of Education, State Board of Health, architects, contractors and school officials have cooperated also in making this program a success.